

PATENT
IBM Docket No. RAL920000082US1

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed September 3, 2004. The responses are captioned with the same headings and arranged in the same order in which the issues were raised in the Office Action.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13 and 14 are allowable.

Claims 3, 6, 9 and 12 are rejected.

Drawings

The Examiner objects to Figure 1 because 242 on page 4, line 8, of the specification is not shown in Figure 1. In reviewing page 4, line 8 of the specification applicants conclude that buffers 242 relates to Figure 7 of U.S. Patent 6,498,806 which is incorporated in the present application by reference. It is applicants' position that buffers 242 is not necessary to understand the invention claimed in the present application. As a consequence the information in lines 7-9 of page 4 of the application is deemed surplusage and is deleted from the application. As a consequence, there is no need to amend Figure 1 since 242 is now removed from the specification.

The Examiner also objects to Figure 1 because the numerals in blocks 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 are not enclosed in labeled boxes. The Examiner seems to suggest they should be enclosed in boxes so that one viewing the drawing may understand the figure without referring to the detailed description.

In response, applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's position on this issue. Applicants believe that enclosing the numbers in blocks as the Examiner suggests

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would make the drawing more complicated and more difficult to understand. Moreover, applicants argue that the figure by itself should not be illustrative of applicants' invention. Instead, the figure should always be taken into combination with the description. As a consequence applicants believe that Figure 1 together with the description meets the requirement of the rule relating to Figures and the customs set forth in the Patent Office for patent disclosure. Therefore, amending the drawing at this time is not warranted.

Specification

The Examiner has raised several objections to the specification. Applicants have reviewed the Examiner's objection carefully and have corrected the specification for each objection in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion.

Claim Objections

With respect to the claims the Examiner objects in that there is no introductory phrase as is required by MPEP section 608.01(m). In response, the specification is amended to include the introductory sentence set forth above.

The Examiner has also raised several objections to the claims. Applicants has reviewed the objections in detail and have amended the claims to comply with the suggestions set forth in the Office Action.

Claim Rejections

Claims 3, 6, 9 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. In particular, the Examiner appears to argue the relationship between the transmission filter,

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digital-to-analog converter, line driver and the selector, recited in claims 3 and 9, is unclear. In response, claims 3 and 9 are amended as set forth above.

It is believed that this amendment clearly establishes the relationship between the components in the claims that are rejected. Newly added claims 15 and 16 depend on claim 1 and are patentable over the art of record.

It is believed that the present amendment answers all the issues raised by the Examiner. Reconsideration is hereby requested, and an early allowance of all the claims is solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,


Joscelyn G. Cockburn
Attorney of Record, Reg. No. 27,069
Customer No. 25299

IBM Corporation
Dept 9CCA/002; P.O. Box 12195
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-2195
Phone: (919) 543-9036 / FAX: (919) 254-2649